

Part 3 -- Remarks

This Amendment and Response is responsive to the office action mailed January 19, 2005. In that office action claims 1, 16, 20, 38, 40, 41, 47 and 48 were rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bachman (4,022,057); and claims 2-15, 17-19, 21-37, 39, 42-46, 49 and 50 were objected to but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Reconsideration of these rejections and objections is respectfully requested in view of the previous amendments and these remarks. Claims 2-50 are pending. A petition and the fee for a two month extension of time accompanies this Amendment and Response.

Canceled Claim

Claim 1 has been canceled and its subject matter has been incorporated into claims 2, 14, 17, 21 and 49.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 2 has been rewritten into independent form by incorporating subject matter from canceled claim 1. This amendment should overcome the objection of claim 2 and should place claim 2 in condition for allowance. Claims 3-5 and 18-20 have been amended to depend from amended claim 2 and should therefore be in condition for allowance. Claims 6-13 depend indirectly from amended claim 2 and should therefore also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 has been rewritten into independent form by incorporating subject matter from independent claim 1. This amendment should overcome the objection of claim 14 and should place claim 14 in condition for allowance. Claim 15 depends from amended claim 14 and should therefore also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 17 has been rewritten into independent form by incorporating subject matter from independent claim 1. This amendment should overcome the objection of claim 17 and should place claim 17 in condition for allowance. Claim 16 has been

amended to depend from amended claim 17 and should therefore also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 21 has been rewritten into independent form by incorporating subject matter from independent claim 1 and intervening claim 20. This amendment should overcome the objection of claim 21 and should place claim 21 in condition for allowance. Claims 22 to 37 directly or indirectly depend from amended claim 21 and should therefore be in condition for allowance. Claim 38 has been amended to depend from amended claim 21 and claims 39-48 directly and indirectly depend from amended claim 38. Accordingly claims 38-48 should therefore also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 49 has been rewritten into independent form by incorporating subject matter from independent claim 1. This amendment should overcome the objection of claim 49 and should place claim 49 in condition for allowance. Claim 50 directly depends from claim 49 and should therefore also be in condition for allowance.

Other Amendments

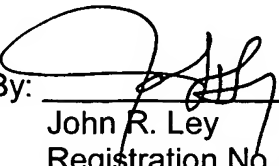
Other amendments have been made to claims 5, 23, 25, 28, 34, 40 and 42 to correct informalities and to otherwise improve the form of those claims, without adding new matter.

Conclusion

As a result of the amendments set forth above, it is believed that all pending claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any issues which may inhibit the immediate allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/7/05

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